Renewable Energy Development
on
Tribal lands

Joe Little Coyote, Sr., Tribal Planner

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Distributed Generation Systems, Inc. (Disgen)
Contractor

#### **Discussion Outline**

**Project Overview** 

**Objectives** 

**Project Location** 

**Project Participants** 

**Requested Technical Support** 



#### **Project Overview**

- Northern Cheyenne adopted a "Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Planning Document" in 2001.
- CEDS mission is "To attain <u>socio-economic independence</u> through the development of a diversified and self-sustaining culturally appropriate reservation economy."
- Northern Cheyenne Tribe has completed a wind energy feasibility study funded in 2002.
- The NCT Tribal Council passed a resolution to support a 30Mw wind facility and authorized the development grant application.

#### **Project Objectives**

- 1. Complete all the development steps and contracts necessary to finance, construct and operate and maintain a 30 Mw wind facility on Tribal Trust Lands
- 2. <u>Create maximum economic development</u> through <u>Tribal Ownership, if possible, of resulting projects</u>

#### **Project Location**

- The Northern Cheyenne Reservation is located in southeastern Montana in Big Horn and Rosebud Counties.
- Tribal headquarters is located in Lame Deer, Montana.
- The wind site is a north-south plateau with an area of approximately 120 square miles.
- Meteorological studies have been conducted for ten years.
- A wind energy feasibility (DOE funded) has been completed.



#### **Project Location**

- Colstrip coal fired power plant is 25 miles to the north.
- Transmission capacity is limited and un-quantified, although
   Tongue River Electric Cooperative (TRECO) has indicated a 30
   Mw facility is feasible.
- Site could accommodate a 30 megawatt wind facility locally and a 150+ megawatt facility for export power.



#### **Project Participants**

- Northern Cheyenne Nation
  - Program Director, Joe Little Coyote, Sr.
- Contractor
  - Distributed Generation Systems, Inc. (Disgen)
    - Dale Osborn, President
    - Ed McCarthy- Meteorological studies
    - Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc.-Avian assessment
    - Tom Wind- Transmission review

#### **Key Studies**

Avian research
-US F&WS
Cultural studies
-Archeological
-Ethnographic
Interconnection studies
Soils studies

# Northern Cheyenne Tribe 30 MW Wind Energy Development Grant Required Contracts

- NCT land agreements
- NCT permits
- BIA permits
- Interconnection agreement
- Taxation agreements
- Power sales agreement
- Financing agreements

- Completed Avian Study protocol with NCT, USF&WS and BIA
- Will conduct environmental Scoping Meeting on Nov. 21
- Relocated meteorological tower to project area
- Briefed NCT Tribal Council on grant and schedule